

HOLYOKE

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HCC stages 24-hour theater festival

Holyoke Community College theater alumni, together with students from the HCC Theater Department, will gather for the fourth year in a row to produce an evening of one-act plays written in just 24 hours.

The fourth annual HCC 24-hour theater festival, renamed the HCC Phillips Festival last year in memory of the late HCC drama teacher Leslie Phillips who inspired the festival's creation, will be presented Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in the Leslie Phillips Theater in HCC's Fine & Performing Arts Building. Participants will first

gather on Friday in the theater to begin planning and writing the plays to be performed the following night.

Like the previous three festivals, the fourth is a benefit show and proceeds will go to the Leslie Phillips Fund for Theater Arts and Education at Holyoke Community College.

This event was first organized in 2016 by HCC alumni working with HCC theater professor Pat Sandoval '84 as a tribute to Phillips, founder of the HCC drama program, who died in 1988. Phillips played a pivotal role in the formation of HCC's theater

department and lent her creative talent and intense focus to inspiring students to explore and discover their passion for the performing arts.

Tickets are \$15 for general admission and \$10 for students, seniors, HCC faculty and staff.

Advance tickets are being sold online at brownpapertickets.com (search for "Phillips Festival").

Anyone who would like to participate in the festival can contact the HCC Alumni Players at hccplayers@gmail.com or go to the HCC Alumni Players Facebook page.



A scene from the first Holyoke Community College 24-hour theater festival in 2016. This year's festival, named the HCC Phillips Festival in memory of the late drama teacher Leslie Phillips, will be presented Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in the Leslie Phillips Theater at HCC.